

SPORTS



The Soviet and Romanian second teams played a 21-21 draw (photo) of the 12th International Moscow tournament for the USSR Rugby Federation Cup, an outcome which surprised the specialists since Romania has won several European titles to date. Taking part were also the first Soviet team, Poland and Czechoslovakia. The first Soviet team, last European championship's silver medalists, had after three days.

Photo by Sergei Proskov

University Games on

The most popular music with participants of the 1985 University Games now on in Kobe, Japan, is the Gaudemus Igitur, the old student hymn, played here only for the winners. The first of the Soviet team to hear it on Sunday were gymnasts Dmitry Biletskiy, Yuri Biletskiy, Valentin Mogilyov and Alexei Tikhonikhin who won the team title with 173.150 points. Japan placed second with 171.150 and China third with 169.950. Biletskiy also won the individual all-around title with 58.250 points, ahead of Mogilyov (57.250) and Japanese Mitsueki Watanabe and Hiroaki Okabe, who shared the bronze with 57.050 points each.

Over 6,000 spectators filled the "Palace of Peace" to overflowing to greet the winners. A friendly atmosphere reigned both at the opening ceremony and in the events.

SNOW CARAVAN STARTS OFF IN SUMMER

The world Alpine skiing cup has set out this year as early as in May before, and in the Southern Hemisphere at that. After lots of delays owing to dismal weather, a downhill was staged in the resort of Les Lacs in the Argentine Andes, 1,200 kilometres west of Buenos Aires.

Because of strong winds the course length was reduced by 70 metres to 3,330 m and the starting point taken 300 m down. 24-year-old Swiss Karl Altmeyer provided a surprise winning in 1 min 47.78 sec, beating by 0.08 sec last year's world bronze medalist American Douglas Lewis and by 0.23 1985 downhill world champion, globe holder Helmut Hoeltner of Austria. The hero of the last year's world cup Pirmin Zurbriggen of Switzerland and Mark Girardelli of Luxembourg came in ninth and tenth respectively.

In a day's time Altmeyer provided his win was not accidental, taking the second stage there as well, this time clocking 2:01.27 on a 3,627 m course with a 850 m drop. His ace compatriot Peter Müller, who favours the downhill, came 0.11 sec behind and 21-year-old Marcus Wasmeier of West Germany, who placed third in the world championship giant slalom, was 0.35 sec behind the runner-up.

Altmeyer has now 50 points to Müller's 32 and Wasmeier's 25. The downhill will resume only in December in Europe.

FOOTBALL: FIRST ROUND OVER

The first eight games were played at the world under-20 championship in the USSR. In Minsk the Soviet side tied 0-0 with Australia, failing to rent the opponent's dance dances. The official championship opening in Tbilisi prior to game between Saudi Arabia and Spain was addressed by FIFA president and senior vice-president Josep Havelange and Harry H. Cavan. The game was surprisingly hotly contested and was also a 0-0 draw. Nigeria beat Canada 2-0, also.

In Minsk, while in Yerevan, Soviet side had a similar win over Nigeria, with a brilliant show by playmaker Balakov. There were exciting developments in an encounter between Hungary and Colombia. The former, having scored two goals in the second half, lost the initiative and the opponents equalized in the last minutes. Brazil showed off sparkling technique to beat Ireland 2-1 in Tbilisi. Mexico defeated China 2-1, and England and Paraguay played to a 2-2 draw in Baku.

Dual disappointment for Austrians

The latest tenth Formula 1 motor racing stage on a 5,042 km hilly course of Zeltweg, Austria, was a dual let-down for Austria and fans from other countries, too. Frenchman Alain Prost on a McLaren set out from the first row to confidently lead halfway through the race, but on the 26th lap his teammate Niki Lauda regained the initiative. He was eager to do well at home and the fans were looking forward to it. But on the 39th lap, Prost mounted a spurt and dashed it in record time to come first, while Lauda's McLaren engine broke down and he had to drop out. Prost has thus scored his fourth Grand Prix win this season and the 40th triumph of his career.

But the greatest disappointment for racing enthusiasts in Lauda's statement prior to the race that he was definitely retiring. Said he: I first made a decision back in 1969 but it was purely emotional. Now I have weighed all pros and cons. True, I cannot say how I might feel out of racing in a couple of years.

By their standing leaders, in Prost and Niki Lauda (Ferrari) are level at 50 points each, but Lauda has only 10 wins to Prost's four. Lotus's De Angelis is third.

CAC TAKE CUP

The Central Army Club has won the national basketball title. Fielding their best players, they prevailed over Zoligris, Leningrad Spartak and Kiev Strelki in the finals August 23-25 in Donetsk.

Chess: four successive wins

The USSR under-26 team won the world title at Mendoza, Argentina, for the fourth time running. They beat second-placed US 2.5-1.5, and Argentina placed third.



National water elation winner Alesei Korbukov in action. Photo by Pyotr Sergeyev

FIGURE SKATING

Natya Usova and Alexander Zhulin of the USSR got off to a fine start this season, winning the dances at an international tournament at Saint-Cervais, France, one of the first in a series of such events preceding

the European and world championships. Ludmila Koblova and Andrei Kalinin of the USSR won the short programme in the pairs but eventually ran up to a Canadian duel.

Brazilians get back

Brazil's football wizards Zico, Soccrates and Falcao, who were with professional Italian clubs last season, are back home. In the 1982 world cup in Spain Brazil, though failing to win the title, still did spectacularly well with stars like captain Soccrates and midfielders Zico and Falcao. After the cup well-heeled Italian clubs mounted a hunt for them, and nearly the entire Brazilian side ended up in Italy.

But they were not doing as well as hoped for, partly owing to the climate and the atmosphere built up around them—they were under constant pressure for goals and wins. Zico

and Falcao missed many games because of injuries, and Soccrates, hard as he tried, failed to get on with his club's management and teammates.

Brazilian fans, who were crestfallen over the loss of their idols, demanded that they get back. At long last three of them succeeded in breaking contracts and returned.

On arrival Soccrates told the press: A year in Italy gave me much food for thought. We, Brazilians, lose a lot playing for foreign clubs. Emerging on the pitch I lacked enthusiasm and the will to win, things that Brazilian fans like us for. I am happy to be back home again.

Information" gives you a full idea of life in the Soviet Union for the week.

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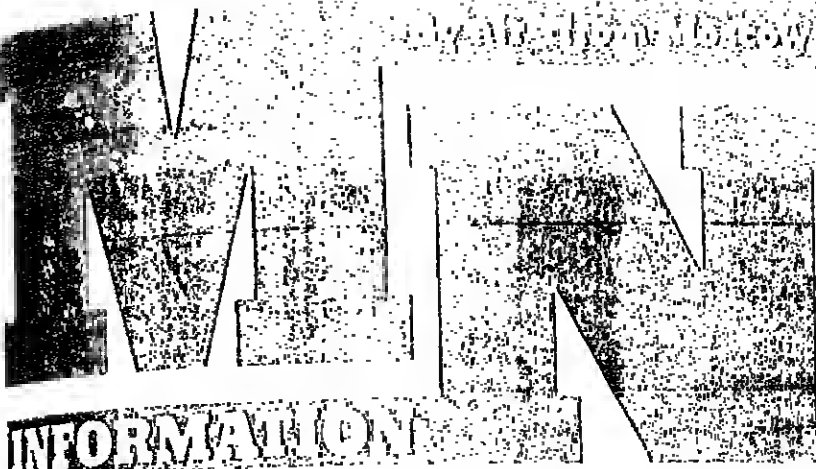


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MIKHAIL GORBACHOV:

The peoples of Asia are linked by the community of vital interests

The Soviet Government's position on unilateral ending of nuclear explosions as of August 6, 1985, meets the vital interests of the peoples of the whole world. This decision is of special significance for the Asia-Pacific region for it is the first time that both American and Soviet sides were dropped.

It was said by Mikhail Gorbachev at a luncheon in the city of honor of the Mongolian People's Republic, Ulaanbaatar, during the visit of the Soviet Union to Mongolia. He said that the effects of the Asia-Pacific region close to the Soviet Union are linked by the community of vital interests and they are tackling problems that are similar in many respects and which have been engendered by the past and are standing in their way to the future. This prompts the need for cooperation and good-neighbourliness on the basis of a broad concept of security, which would be consistent with the interests of every state of the region.

In our opinion, this concept could include the five principles of peaceful coexistence once elaborated by the Asian states, the ten principles of Bandung, a number of initiatives put forward by the Soviet Union, the Mongolian People's Republic, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the countries of Indochina.

We are, of course, aware that difficulties, and no small ones at that, stand in the way of the consolidation of peace in the Asia-Pacific region. Mikhail Gorbachev went on. They arise from contradictions between the interests of the region and the difference in their approach to the existing problems. However, another thing is more important—the peoples of Asia are linked by the community of vital interests and they are tackling problems that are similar in many respects and which have been engendered by the past and are standing in their way to the future. This prompts the need for cooperation and good-neighbourliness on the basis of a broad concept of security, which would be consistent with the interests of every state of the region.

(Continued on page 2)

END APARTHEID

The Soviet people are in solidarity with the fight against apartheid, racial segregation and discrimination, and all forms of oppression and exploitation of the African population in South Africa. Not curtailed and hypocritical "reforms" but an immediate and complete eradication of apartheid is the demand of the Soviet people and all who defend human rights and the freedom of peoples all over the world. The existence of apartheid is a source of dangerous tensions in the south of Africa and seriously complicates international relations.

The Soviet Union, together with all advocates of peace, freedom, independence and social progress, condemns the policy of collaboration with Pretoria authorities by imperialist quarters led by the US. There can be no justification for this policy. The Soviet Government urges all nations to take effective measures to force the Pretoria regime to submit to the demand of the world public and end violence and repression against the African population. Apartheid should be no more.



Running across the region is the vast Balkan-Amer. Mainline, which totals 3,145 km. Several villages shared their impressions with us.

THE TRIP'S DOYEN, ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR TRAJAN DUBAI

We were profoundly impressed by the nature of Siberia but will remember most of all the warm and beautiful people of this land.

POLITBUREAU WEEKLY MEETING

The Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee considered at its latest meeting the results of the meeting that was held at the Party Central Committee on questions of elaboration of the plans for the social economic development of the USSR in 1986 and in the 12th Five-Year Plan period (1986-1990).

The Politbureau emphasized that the indices in the next year's plan must conform in full to the plan, that would secure the attainment of the levels provided for in the draft Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR in the 12th Five-Year Plan period. Special attention was drawn to the need for the introduction of the latest scientific and technological achievements into practice with the aim of reaching all-round raising of production efficiency, and to the strengthening of the economy regime, organization and discipline so as to satisfy more fully the growing requirements of the population for consumer goods and services.

The Politbureau stressed that the unconditional fulfillment of the plan and the socialist commitments for 1985, as the basis for the successful work in the first year of the new five-year plan and for achieving in the 27th CPSU Congress in a belittling manner, is an economic-political task of paramount importance.



A broad-and-sail welcome in Siberia.

Siberia through the eyes of diplomats



Diplomats looking over the equipment of the Bratsk Timber-Industrial complex.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS

Heads of diplomatic missions accredited in the USSR took only five and a half hours to fly from Moscow to Irkutsk, a regional centre in Siberia. The trip was organized by the Soviet foreign ministry. Also the visitors were the Bratsk, Nizhneangarsk, Sayansk-Belkansk, Ust-Kut, and took a train ride over a section of the Baikal-Amur Mainline.

The territory of our region may hold countries as France, Portugal, Belgium, Ireland and Denmark rolled into one, chairman of the Irkutsk regional executive committee Alexei KOVALCHUK told the diplomats.

Our region has a grim climate, he continued, as in summer, temperatures occasionally reach a scorching 45°C and drop below -60°C in winter.

The region is the country's biggest power engineering centre, producing between 60 and 70 billion kWh a year. It has three big power stations — the Bratsk of 4.5 mln kW, the Ust-Belinsk of 1.6 mln kW. This is a major industrial centre exporting products to 60 countries. It has the world's largest Bratsk Timber-Industrial complex with stocks of seven billion cubic metres.

Running across the region is the vast Balkan-Amer. Mainline, which totals 3,145 km. Several villages shared their impressions with us.

THE TRIP'S DOYEN, ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR TRAJAN DUBAI

We were profoundly impressed by the nature of Siberia but will remember most of all the warm and beautiful people of this land.

who built big power stations, factories and burgeoning cities in a most rigorous climate. All this convincingly testifies to the amazing creative capacity of Soviet people.

SENEGAL AMBASSADOR PASCAL-ANTOINE SANE

There is much truth in the saying, seeing is believing. We were happy enough to see Siberia with our own eyes after we heard so much about it. Budding modern cities, big factories built in a short time are all telling examples of Siberians' courage and industry.

The government is doing a lot to reward local people's work. For instance, we learned that they are offered a free round trip to any corner of the Soviet Union twice a year, and they get quite big wages too. For example, the average wages at the Bratsk Timber-Industrial complex are 327 roubles.

THE CDR AMBASSADOR EGON WINKELMANN

The trip gave us an abundance of facts about Siberia. For me the vigorous exploration of this region is a regular wander.

But surely we were most impressed by the Baikal-Amur Mainline over a section of which we travelled. This 3,000 km line linking the country's west and east is vital not just for the USSR — everywhere we went we saw examples of Soviet cooperation with many nations. Much has been done in Siberia but there is still much more ahead, so socialist countries and many others are ready to contribute to this noble project.

Moscow-Irkutsk-Moscow

Canady LEONOV

Photos by Alexei Frolov

LAST RESPECTS FOR SAMANTHA SMITH

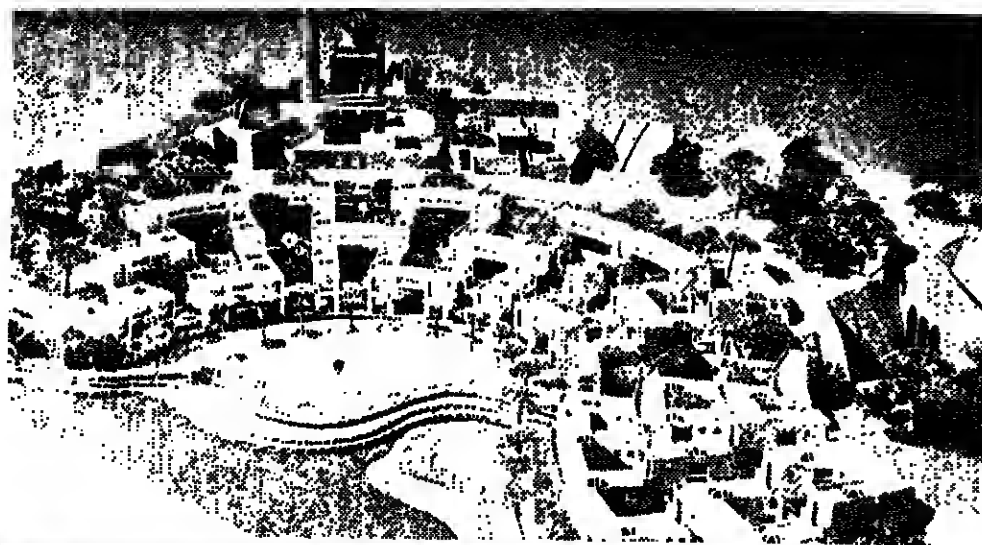
Washington. Hundreds of people came for the funeral services in the town of Augusta, Maine, for the tragically killed 13-year-old schoolgirl, Samantha Smith and her father Arthur. They paid tribute to a girl whose sunny smile and sincere calls for friendship between the Soviet and American peoples deeply moved millions of people. Members of the Soviet Embassy in the US gave to Samantha's mother, Mrs. Jane Smith, a telegram of condolences from Mikhail Gorbachev. She expressed her gratitude to Soviet people for their concern. I feel with all my heart that my daughter has left a lasting and bright memory both at home and in the far-off Soviet Union, and this alleviates my woes, she stressed.

Round the Soviet Union

● THE NEW SHIP, NAMED "ULYANA GROMOVA" IN HONOUR OF THE HERO OF THE SOVIET UNION, WAS ADDED TO THE OIL TANKER FLEET OF THE CASPIAN SEA SHIPPING COMPANY. This tanker has been built in Volgograd and has a carrying capacity of 4,600 tonnes. The ship's small draught makes it possible to take it along the inland waterways. Cargo tanks are separated from the ballast tanks, which prevent fuel from spilling overboard. Till the end of the year the Azerbaijan Shipping Company will receive two more powerful ships.

● 1,350 MILLION PASSENGERS WERE CARRIED BY THE METRO IN KHARKOV INDUSTRIAL CENTRE IN THE UKRAINE IN TEN YEARS. Now its lines stretch for 24 km. Construction work at the Metro continues. Its second section will be put into operation in 1986, linking the city centre with the biggest residential district — Salievsky, with a population of nearly half a million.

● DETAILED MAPS OF ALL UNDERWATER MEADOWS OF THE WHITE SEA HAVE BEEN COMPILED BY THE SCIENTISTS OF THE NORTH. This will make it much easier for producers to search for deep-water plants. It will help to plan more accurately and efficiently the production of seaweeds. At the same time, the stocks of sea grasses have been evaluated. They can still be a valuable raw material for the textile, medical and food industries.



'GOLDEN' DESIGN BY KIRGHIZ ARCHITECTS

This year, which the UN has proclaimed the International Youth Year, a world contest of young architects was organized by the UNESCO headquarters in Paris. Its subject-matter was "The Housing of Tomorrow". Under the rules of the contest admitted to participate were architectural designs of small rural or urban housing ensembles. The participants had also to take into account social and economic peculiarities, cultural and everyday traditions of the people, to naturally blend their designs with the environment.

The competition was rather stiff — the final round included 250 designs from 55 countries. Among the first prize winners of the contest there were two groups from the USSR. They are young architects from Byelorussia and the Central Asian Republic of Kirghizia (the mock-up of their design is pictured above). Now this mock-up together with the mock-ups of other UNESCO prize winning designs is displayed at the Tsukuba-85 World Fair in Japan.

The design submitted by the Kirghiz architects

represents a housing complex for 40 families. It is located on the banks of Lake Issyk-Kul, where, by tradition, many gatherings, festivities, fairs, games and sports competitions are taking place. The design takes into account the everyday life of several generations. The space-planing reveals a pattern of a traditional Kirghiz nomadic encampment — yurtas (nomad tents) are arranged in a hool-like semicircle, with the open side facing the natural dome, in this case the lake. The "carpal" of houses spread along the slope is traversed by three roofed streets containing shops, maintenance services, a chalkiana (lan-house).

The International jury appreciated not only the architectural qualities of the design but also its fundamental unity with the nature and traditions of the Kirghiz people. It was noted that the suggested parameters of the dwelling guarantee a lively energy consumption. At the same time the project is absolutely realistic and can be translated into life in the very near future.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN MOSCOW METRO

The attention of passengers travelling by the circular line of Moscow Metro is attracted by a light-gray carriage of an unusual hexahedral shape, now undergoing tests. The designers call the new carriage "H" type. It was built at the Mytishchi machine-building plant near Moscow, which has produced, since the first Metro line 50 years ago, nearly 4,000 carriages. How does this one differ from others?

Its body is made not of steel but of aluminum alloys, which helped reduce its weight by 3 tonnes. By replacing the traditional form with a hexahedron it became possible to fill the entire space of the carriage. Now the carriage has a bigger floor space and the corners have been moved to the side walls of the recessed cabin. The passengers have become broader, providing space for another 30 people. Thus, a train of seven "hexahedrons" can carry 200 additional passengers. Automatic ventilation and air-conditioning, noise-absorbing covers of the walls, the roomy cabin for the operator, absence of side thrusts afforded by the system of pneumatic springs and other novelties, designed favourably the new model of the underground train from previous ones.

A special regulated heating system is being used for the first time. Thanks to this, recuperation takes place during acceleration and stoppage, i.e., a return of electric energy into the network. This promises huge savings.

The results of tests will be taken into consideration in the mass production of the carriages and their reconstruction. Subsequently they will operate not only on all the underground railways in the USSR, but also in some European countries.

Places to visit

GEHARD MONASTERY

The Gehard monastery is situated in a hollow on the upper reaches of Arsenio's Gorge River. A legend has it that when Jesus Christ was crucified,



View from the monastery.

The Church of the Virgin, 1215.

one of the Roman legionaries thrust a spear into his side. And subsequently this spear became a sacred relic. At least one hundred Christian churches in Europe and Asia have a spear each. The "Armenian spear" was initially kept in the Echmizdin monastery, but in the 9th century, during the Arab conquest, it was transferred to the cave monastery and it has been named Gehard ever since.

The monastery complex, apart from ordinary church structures, also includes cave temples cut into the mountain.

Designed by Le Corbusier

In Moscow are eleven projects for the restoration of the architectural relic — the House, now a building of the Statistical Board.

These works were part of the 1977 competition for the restoration of the House, now a building of the Statistical Board.

INTEREST

While storks are known for their nest-building, they are also known for their ability to build nests from mud and straw.

They build their nests on the eaves of houses, in the hollows of trees, and even in the chimneys of houses.

MAGIC CARPET

A piece of art, which cannot be called otherwise but a miracle of carpet-making, has appeared in Armenia. It is 44 metres long and about three metres wide. It was made by the craftsman specializing in tapestry — Karo Yeghazaryan and Asmik Kazaryan. This tapestry is meant for the lobby of the drama theatre in Leninakan.

Artists chose as a subject of the carpet the culture and art of their native country in their development from ancient times to our days. They divided the carpet into 8 equal parts. These parts were named: music, alphabet, poetry, the fine arts, theatre, science, history, architecture. Each fragment has a three-part composition, in the centre of which are the portraits of most famous figures in the given sphere of science or art, and on the sides — groups of their followers, performers and assistants.

Specialists know how difficult the technique of making portraits in tapestry is and in this magic carpet there are 87 human figures and among them 43 portraits.

A fragment of the carpet.

partitions and structures of the later periods are being removed and the front of the building is being reconstructed anew.

"Soon we shall start restoration of the interior."

BUILT BY YOUNG PEOPLE

A sports centre has been built in the Cosmonaut Volkov public garden in Kaluga, on the shores of the reservoir called "Kaluga Sea". Kosmonauts members patronized the project centre while turbine, engine-building, radio-valve and other construction teams to building centre. Simulators for physical exercises were made after original designs.

The youngsters of Kaluga have not been forgotten either. Grounds for games have been equipped for them.

The reform will run until 1990 but some of its measures will take longer.

The USSR Ministry of Education has already approved a new curriculum which features, for the first time, among other things, such obligatory subjects as "Learning the environment", "The ethics and psychology of family life", the latter one already taught last year (the last two subjects for senior forms). The course "The fundamentals of production. Choice of trade" will be taught as part of labour and vocational training.

Much time will be set aside for pupils' socially useful work and teaching them various skills. Already approved is a list of occupations which children already learn in general education schools, for whatever they opt for after leaving schools the graduates ought to get the hang of one of these occupations. There will also be optional natural sciences, technical and humanities courses.

Also, schools will have closer contacts with so-called base enterprises where pupils will be taught various trades, and the stage-by-stage process of preparing for them, ranging from 50 and 95 per cent, will continue.

Larger scope of land improvement

The surface of improved lands in the USSR (both drained and irrigated) will increase 1.5-fold by the year 2000. This will make it possible to annually receive half of the annual agricultural production in the country irrespective of weather conditions and thus ensure guaranteed food reserve for the country.

Two-thirds of arable lands in this country are located in the arid zone (with insufficient amounts of precipitation), while in areas with excessive moisture. There is hardly not a single year when one or several major grain-growing areas have not been affected by droughts. Hence, the need to extend the

scope of land improvement works, for which the state allocates huge sums of money. Thus, in the last 25 years 115,000 million rubles have been spent for this purpose.

Now the share of improved lands in the USSR is under 12 per cent but they account for 35 per cent of agricultural production in terms of money. The ir-

rigated and drained lands are responsible for the total cotton and rice yields, three-quarters of vegetables, about half of the fruits and grapes, one-fourth of fodder crops.

The length of irrigation systems alone exceeds 700,000 kilometres, while the number of major man-made water reservoirs has reached 340.

lam in depicting dramatic and tragic events during the war — this is the only path for serious art that deals with this theme.

THE UZBEK LANGUAGE: DEVELOPMENT OR DECLINE?

At one time Altkar Navoi, medieval poet and philosopher, founder of Uzbek literature, had to fight against the advocates of the view on the non-specific nature of the Turkic (Old Uzbek) language. In our days the Uzbek language is predicted the decline of the Uzbek language in connection with the so-called "assimilation". In this thesis consultant Aziz Pulatov, Director of the Institute of Manuscripts of the Uzbek SSR Academy of Sciences, is reflecting on this question in the newspaper KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA (Tajikistan and Uzbekistan are neighbouring Central Asian republics). Sixty years ago about 5 million people spoke Uzbek on the territory of the USSR, notes the author. The selective census of the population taken only this year showed that more than 15 million Soviet citizens regard Uzbek a native tongue for themselves. The two-volume Uzbek o'zbek lug'at (Uzbek dictionary) of the Uzbek language and published in Tashkent five years ago. It contains 60,000 words and phrases. Altogether, 100 years ago the Uzbek language had not more than 40,000 words and combinations of them.

Today the problems of the Uzbek language and Uzbek literature are studied by the staff members of the Institute of Literature and Linguistics of the Uzbek SSR Academy of Sciences. The activity of this research centre is completely financed by the state. Philologists and teachers of the Uzbek language and literature are invited to the Tashkent State University and 12 teachers living in the republic are being enriched with new words and meanings reflecting the realities arising in recent years. The Uzbek language is becoming more and more perfect and expressive. The rapid development of vocabulary, morphology and word formation has made it a modern language of science, highly artistic literature, theatre, drama, prose and social life.

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

THE FUTURE OF COAL-MINING INDUSTRY

The USSR energy development programme provides for substantial increase in coal extraction, among other most important measures aimed at securing energy resources for the national economy, writes EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA. The solution of this task is associated with considerable and technological re-equipment of the operating mines and pits, with construction of new coal-mining enterprises on the basis of modern technology, with fuller use of the existing capacities.

One of the venues for scientific and technological progress and increase in coal-mining is the faster growth in open-cast mining. The prime cost of open-cast mining is 4-5 times lower than underground coal extraction. The productivity of labour of open pits is 5-10 times higher than that of the underground mines.

This year the share of the open-cast extracted coal will reach 42 per cent as compared with 37.8 per cent in 1980. The energy development programme provides for the increase of this share up to 50-60 per cent by the year 2000.

Powerful fuel-energy complexes are being established in Ekibastuz, Kansk-Achinsk, South Yekimov. Further development is being provided for the Kuznetsk coal basin, the coal deposits of Siberia and the Far East.

Elaboration and finishing of scientific and technological programmes in coal-mining industry for the 12th Five-Year Development Plan period (1986-90) are nearing completion. They provide for technological re-equipment of mines and their mechanization.

The use of modern machines and technology in mining will permit to increase the productivity of mine-workers labour by 25 per cent.

THE SIBERIA-CENTRAL ASIA CANAL: ITS EFFECT

Designing work in the Siberia-Central Asia canal continues. More than 150 research and design institutes par-

ticipated in making its feasibility study. Designing work will be completed in 1987, writes the newspaper PRAVDA VOSTOKA. By that time, according to the forecasts of experts, the water resources of one of the two biggest Central Asian rivers — Syr Darya will be exhausted and of the other — Amudarya will be close to this.

The total length of the canal is 2,000 km. It starts near Tobolsk and ends in the area of the Tuzumayun reservoir in Uzbekistan (one of Soviet Central Asian republics). Up to 1,150 cu m of water will flow every second along this man-made river. As to its main parameters the canal will surpass such a big river as the Don.

What will be the effect produced by the canal? Replying to this question, the newspaper writes that a cubic kilometre of additional irrigation water in Uzbekistan can yield a growth of irrigated lands running to 70,000-75,000 hectares. If from the first phase of the 25 km stretch Uzbekistan receives 12, this water will additionally irrigate 850,000-900,000 hectares of lands, including large areas in the lower reaches of the Amudarya in the Kazakhstan and Dzhirgatal regions.

BOOKS ON WAR. ACCURATE AND HARSH REALISM

Byelorussian author Vasil Bykov wrote the following in the magazine PRIRODA I CHISLOV about stories and books on the past war.

People's heroism during the past World War II is a good theme for contemporary art. There are outstanding films and literary works about people during the war. One of the chief criteria in appraising works which have war as their theme is their measure and tact in relation to truth, in relation to those who were involved in it — to those who have remained alive, but chiefly to those who were killed.

There is no need to say how impermissible funny farcical works which depict on human blood and comrades based on human suffering are. The theme of the past war is still a painful one, and it seems to me that each time we look at it we must ask ourselves: Are we right in it? Is it necessary? This is the chief moral approach. Psychological deep insight, accurate and harsh real-

